

VZCZCXRO8004
OO RUEHMA RUEHPA
DE RUEHCO #0964 3551012
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
O 211012Z DEC 07
FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0072
INFO RUEHRC/DEPT OF AGRICULTURE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUEHUJA/AMEMBASSY ABUJA 0285
RUEHOS/AMCONSUL LAGOS 1288
RUEHZK/ECOWAS COLLECTIVE
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 1218
RUEHDK/AMEMBASSY DAKAR 1416
RUEHAB/AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN 0269
RUEHRN/USMISSION UN ROME
RUEAUSA/DEPT OF HHS WASHDC
RUEHPH/CDC ATLANTA GA

UNCLAS COTONOU 000964

SIPDIS

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DEPT FOR AF/W DBANKS AND G/AIAG MJONES
DEPT PLEASE PASS USAID FOR MHARVEY, GGREER, GBERTOLIN, NSTUDZINSKI
AND JBORRAZZO
USDA FOR FAS MROSENBLUM
CDC FOR INFLUENZA DIVISION DGROSS AND CDUGGAR
DAKAR FOR USDA/APHIS CFRENCH AND RCOLY AND USAID
ROME FOR SPANOS
ABIDJAN FOR CDC

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [EAGR](#) [TBIO](#) [KFLU](#) [BN](#)

SUBJECT: H5N1 UPDATE 2: GOB SETS UP COMPENSATION FUND

REF: COTONOU 963 AND PREVIOUS

[1](#)1. The GOB announced on December 19, 2007 the creation of a compensation fund for farmers of poultry culled as a result of the avian influenza (AI) outbreaks Benin has experienced (Ref). According to Post's sources the compensation fund will have a value of \$542 thousand and the GOB plans to provide all of the funding for the compensation fund. To date the GOB has not made any specific requests for donor assistance.

[1](#)2. The GOB's veterinary service continues culling operations in a 3 km zone surrounding Adjarra and Akpro-Misserete (sites of two of the AI outbreaks). The cullers have been trained using FAO guidelines. Once culling in an area is completed the surrounding area and equipment are disinfected. Personal Protective Equipment is used only once. Culled birds are placed in a hole and then incinerated. The GOB's Ministry of Environment is providing guidance for environmental protection measures.

[1](#)3. The GOB's Minister of Health instructed Regional Health Directors to work with the veterinary service to implement prevention measures and manage any suspicious cases. He also stated that joint teams from the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Health are conducting surveillance activities in affected areas. WHO is currently providing technical assistance to the GOB.

BROWN